

State of Connecticut senate

SENATOR HENRI MARTIN THIRTY-FIRST SENATE DISTRICT

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Sen. Martin Testimony In Support of S.B. 81 Labor and Public Employees Committee February 17th, 2015

Senator Winfield, Representative Tercyak, Senator Hwang, Representative Rutigliano and members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee,

I am Senator Henri Martin, and I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 81: AN ACT CONCERNING JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES.

I am submitting this testimony to voice strong support of my bill S.B. 81.

I represent Bristol, Harwinton, Plainville, Plymouth and Thomaston. Many small businesses in those municipalities would benefit greatly from this legislation.

There is a significant shortage of qualified tradesmen in Connecticut. My goal is to develop a regulatory climate that advances a sustainable replacement mechanism for the skilled trade jobs being lost here in our state.

Adjusting the working Journeymen to Apprentice ratio is a common sense solution which benefits our small businesses and boosts our economy.

The costs of doing business in Connecticut are some of the highest in the United States. It is critical that we pass policies which not only lower those costs, but also encourage employers to continue job training opportunities for future generations of Connecticut workers.

This legislation not only provides more educational and training opportunities for apprentices, but also provides small business a mechanism for growth and job creation.

This bill will create new opportunities.

Adjusting the working Journeymen to Apprentice ratio will increase the number of skilled tradesmen in our labor force and create long term, sustainable jobs here in Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration of S.B. 81.

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Best Regards,

Senator Henri Martin

31st District